

DIVINE MERCY ACADEMY

PRE-K4B/MS. MATIS

SYLLABUS

Staff/Contacting the Teacher:

Ms. Rosemary Matis: Pre-K4B Teacher (Information on Ms. Matis' background can be found on the DMA website. Click "Academics"; under "Classrooms", click Pre-K4B).

Mrs. Sue Ellen Appleby: Classroom Aide.

*Show and Tell schedules will be sent home at the end of September. Show and Tell will be divided into two groups. You will be informed of what day your child has Show and Tell.

*Please don't hesitate to contact me with your concerns and questions. Communication between home and school is very important for your child's success in school.

Ways to reach me: Send in a note with your child in his/her folder. (We check folders every day); phone: 973-627-6003; Email: pre-k4b@dmarockaway.org. Please note, I usually don't check my email during the school day.

Birthday Celebrations/Classroom Activities:

Each student is a special blessing from God. Birthdays are celebrated in my classroom. Food is permitted, however, parents are asked to keep it simple (only finger foods). Please contact me at least one day in advance to make arrangements. The parent does not need to be present. We celebrate birthdays during our "snack" time. The student

is allowed to wear an appropriate outfit of their choice on their birthday.

Specials:

Specials are an important part of the preschool child's educational experience at DMA. Specials include Art, Computers, Spanish, Music, Library and Physical Education. A copy of our Specials schedule is attached.

****If your child is absent for any reason, upon his/her return to school, please send in a note explaining the absence.****

Areas of Instruction:

*Religion: understands that God is loving and caring, participates in prayer, knows the Sign of the Cross, begins to recite traditional prayers, discusses stories from the Bible (God's Corner is part of our circle time activities), attend Mass with their teacher, classroom aide, and buddies.

*Language Arts Literacy: letter/sound recognition, comprehension of short stories, rhyming words, recognition of his/her name, recognizes that the print is read in a story, recognize letters form words, follows oral directions, joins in singing, finger play, retelling of stories; repeats parts of stories and poems.

*Mathematics: counting, number recognition, patterns, sort objects, positional words, such as in/under/down/over; puzzles, shapes, and classification, learns to say counting numbers, number words, opposites

*Pre-Writing/Fine Motor: handwriting strokes, writing their first and last name, pencil/crayon grip, cutting and gluing; rip paper, manage zippers, buttons, and laces; attempts to tie; manipulate playdoh, snap cubes, complete puzzles, snip straws, cut on a straight line and circle; water color paint; Divine Mercy Academy uses Zaner-Bloser handwriting curriculum.

*Colors (seasons, music/books, mixing colors, recognize colors, paint, explore the colors of the world outside, holiday colors, STEM/rainbows-March)

*STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math- projects that will promote critical thinking skills; students work in pairs and small groups; Religion is incorporated into our STEM themes. *Scholastic PK News* magazine provides enrichment to our STEM themes.

THEMES are, but not limited to:

*All About Me: Plants & Animals

*Spiders

*Seeds and Harvest

*Weather/Climate

*Forces/Pushes/Pull: Traveling and Building

***Thematic Units:** Seasons, Health/Wellness, Community Helpers, Nursery Rhymes/Poetry, Families, Dinosaurs, Transportation, Friendship/Manners, Farm/Zoo Animals, Shapes/Colors, Holidays (Some of our thematic units will be based on *Scholastic PK News* magazine.)

Assessment:

Students will receive a report card twice a year; first, in January and the second in June. School scheduled parent/teacher conferences are available in the autumn; usually in November. Please note, I'm available any time during the school year to discuss your child's progress.

Preschool Classroom Management and Procedures

Classroom Rules:

1. Look, Listen, Do! (*Look* at me when I am speaking. *Listen* to what I am saying and *Do* what I ask.)
2. Take turns and share
3. Treat teachers and peers with respect and kindness
4. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself
5. Clean up after yourself
6. Try your best! 😊

Consequences:

If a student breaks a rule:

1. Verbal warning (usually the '3 strikes and you're out')
2. Removed from activity. Student's clothespin will be moved to the yellow (straight face) circle on the "Stop Light" behavior chart.
3. If behavior continues or if student's clothespin is moved to the red (sad face) circle, a phone call, email, or note in the folder will go home to the parent(s).
4. If necessary, they will visit the principal or parent/teacher conference.

*There will be a chart in your child's folder that relates to our "Stop Light" behavior chart in the classroom. This will be available for you to view every day.

Usually in preschool, there are few severe behavioral issues.

Specials Schedule

Monday

Tuesday – Gym 8:30 (please wear sneakers!)

Library 9:05

Wednesday – Music 9:10

Spanish 10:00

Thursday – Art 10:30